

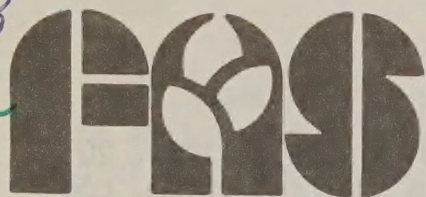
Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

DHD1761

42 F3
Leave

7810620



REPORT

United States
Department of
AgricultureForeign
Agricultural
Service

Washington, D.C. 20250

WEEKLY ROUNDUP OF WORLD PRODUCTION AND TRADE

WR 16-82

WASHINGTON, April 21--The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture today reported the following recent developments in world agriculture and trade:

GRAIN AND FEED

SOUTH KOREA's corn imports could rise following recent regulations aimed at liberalizing trade and encouraging importers to take advantage of prevailing favorable market conditions. Under a new regulation established by the Korean Government, importers have been given incentives to import corn for feed use. These incentives are payments to importers based on the difference between the Feed Stabilization Fund's breakpoint price and the weighted average import prices paid by importers. In 1980/81, South Korea imported about 2.4 million tons of corn--all from the United States--compared with 2.3 million in 1979/80.

CHINA's area sown to winter wheat declined again this year by 1 to 2 percent, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Beijing. Reduced sown area, serious drought in some important grain producing provinces, and delayed planting may have limited yield potential for the 1982 wheat crop.

Winter grains in Shandong and Hebei Provinces, the two major drought-stricken areas of the North China Plain, are described by Chinese officials as being in worse condition than last year, but not as bad as in 1980. Soil moisture in these two provinces was low last fall, causing spotty germination, and early cold spells reduced seedling growth. Light amounts of precipitation in late March did not contribute significantly to water reserves, but did provide some needed root zone moisture at a key period.

In northern and western areas of Shandong, where wheat is already in the jointing stage, below freezing temperatures in late March are believed to have had an adverse effect on the crop. Official statements about the crop situation in Henan Province, where crop area expanded roughly 8 percent this year, also stress drought. However, the affected areas are localized, and prospects for a good crop are generally better than in Shandong and Hebei.

-more-

LYNN KRAWCZYK, Editor, Tel. (202) 382-9442. Additional copies may be obtained from FAS Information Service Staff, 5918-South, Washington, D.C. 20250. Tel. (202) 447-7937.

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
NATL. AG. LIBRARY
RECEIVED
APR 22 1982

DAIRY, LIVESTOCK, AND POULTRY

SYRIA's table egg production reached 1.5 billion pieces in 1981, 20 percent above 1980. Early in 1981, the sharp increase in egg production, coupled with internal marketing problems and a ban on exports, caused table egg prices to fall below production costs and forced some small producers to shut-down or shift to broiler production. Despite the difficulties experienced in early 1981, Syria is planning another 20 percent or more increase in egg production during 1982.

In the SOVIET UNION, state and collective farm data for March 1982 indicate meat production was more than 6 percent above March 1981 levels. Similar data for January and February of this year were down 7 and 5 percent, respectively, from the same months in 1981. Even with the March increase, cumulative production for the quarter was still 1 percent below 1981.

For individual commodities, first quarter beef production was 2 percent below 1981, with both pork and milk production down 4 percent. Slaughter weights continued to fall during March, and as a result, quarterly averages for both cattle and hogs were down about 3 percent. The poultry sector, on the other hand, continued expanding. Poultry meat production was 10 percent above 1981, with egg production during the first quarter up 2 percent.

Except for hogs, growth in Soviet livestock numbers continued. April 1 cattle numbers were up 2 million head over March 1, and represent a new record for April 1. March 1 to April 1 growth in poultry and sheep numbers matched growth during the same periods of 1980 and 1981. Hog numbers, however, dropped 500,000 head, compared with the normal March pattern of little or no change.

TOBACCO

ZIMBABWE is gearing up for another bumper year of tobacco exports amid hopes that high 1981 prices will be repeated and possibly be even better. Whatever happens to prices, tobacco is certain to be Zimbabwe's largest export for the third consecutive year. Tobacco exports in 1981 are estimated at 105,000 tons, valued at around US\$196 million. The 1982 exports are expected to exceed 100,000 tons again and provide export earnings of US\$238-\$252 million. One factor that may help the industry this year is the depreciation of Zimbabwe's dollar, which makes their tobacco more competitive in world markets. Prices in Zimbabwe's tobacco auctions, which opened March 16, averaged US\$2.16 per kilogram through the third week of sales, compared with US\$2.36 during the same period in 1981. A total of 2,439 tons were sold as of March 31, 1982. Although the overall quality of the 1982 crop is somewhat lower than last year's, the availability of more grades should assist exports.

HONG KONG is drafting new anti-smoking measures to replace its obsolete anti-smoking legislation. The new law is expected to be completed by the end of 1982 and probably will be made effective in early 1983. It will include such measures as testing and publishing tar and nicotine content of all cigarette brands sold; establishing non-smoking areas; controlling advertising time and content; warnings to accompany all tobacco advertisements and cigarette packets; and raising the minimum fine for breaking the anti-smoking laws. In spite of these measures, the general feeling is that the level of tobacco consumption will be affected only marginally.

Hong Kong is the second largest market for U.S. cigarettes. In 1981, the United States exported a total of 8.3 billion pieces of cigarettes to Hong Kong, valued at \$117 million. In addition, 1,932 tons of unmanufactured U.S. tobacco, at a value of \$10.7 million, were destined to that market.

COLOMBIA's tobacco exports in 1981 declined sharply to 10,806 tons from 16,925 tons in 1980, primarily due to lower demand for dark-leaf tobacco, which made up nearly all of the shipments (10,186 tons). These exports were valued at \$17 million in 1981, compared with \$26 million in 1980. The major markets for Colombia's dark-leaf tobacco in 1981 were Spain (52 percent) and Morocco (18 percent). The United States purchased 600 tons of Colombian dark-leaf tobacco exports. Colombia also shipped 620 tons of burley tobacco in 1981, valued at \$800,000; all of it went to the United States for re-export. No burley tobacco was exported in 1980.

HORTICULTURAL AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS

In TAIWAN, official sources now place the 1982 fresh pineapple crop at 99,000 tons, down nearly half from the 185,000-ton estimate reported in the Weekly Roundup of April 14. The 1981 crop was also revised downward to 139,500 tons, compared to the previous estimate of 200,000 tons. High production costs, lack of competitiveness in export markets, and the Government's unwillingness to prop up the ailing industry are the principal reasons for the continued shrinkage of Taiwan's pineapple operations. World pineapple production for 1982 is now forecast at 4,770,000 tons, up from 4,580,200 tons in 1981.

WORLD cashew nut production has gradually expanded over the past several years. In India, a multi-state development program has encouraged increased area, output and productivity. In Kenya and Tanzania, sharply rising producer prices have stimulated production. Brazil is the only significant cashew nut producer not expected to harvest a larger crop in 1981/82. Dry weather in the state of Ceara will likely hold yields at last year's reduced level of 74,000 tons. Cashew nut production in selected countries is as follows, in 1,000 tons:

<u>Country</u>	<u>1977/78</u>	<u>1978/79</u>	<u>1979/80</u>	<u>1980/81</u>	<u>1981/82 1/</u>
Brazil	65.0	55.0	75.0	74.0	74.0
India	130.0	150.0	141.8	165.0	172.0
Kenya	9.6	11.2	16.4	10.0	18.0
Tanzania	68.4	57.1	41.4	60.6	72.3
Total	273.0	273.3	274.6	309.6	336.3

BRAZIL's production of Brazil nuts in 1982 is currently estimated at only 32,000 tons--the smallest outturn since 1967. Production has been trending downward since 1979 as the industry continues to be short of labor for harvesting. Many workers have opted for alternative employment in mines or hydroelectric plants, rather than harvest nuts from remote areas of the Amazon Basin. In recent years, Brazil nut production in green weight equivalent was as follows: 1978--35,000 tons; 1979--55,000 tons; 1980--40,000 tons; and 1981--36,000 tons.

WEST GERMANY's honey imports totaled 75,624 tons in 1981, up 15 percent from 1980. The leading suppliers were Mexico (23,235 tons), China (17,138) and Argentina (7,008). The United States supplied 837 tons, compared with 2,170 tons in 1980.

RECENT FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULARS

Cotton in Egypt, Supplement 1-82
 U.S. Spice Trade Continues To Increase, FTEA 1-82
 1981 Grain Crop--USSR Grain Production, FPED-4-82
 U.S. Seed Exports, FFVS 3-82
 The Current USSR Grain Situation, FG 11-82
 Deciduous Fruit and Table Grape Situation, FDAP 1-82
 Brazilian, South African Crop Estimates Reduced, WCP 4-82

TO ORDER, CONTACT: U.S. Department of Agriculture, FAS Information Services Staff, 5918-South, Washington, D.C. 20250. Tel. (202) 447-7937.

Rotterdam Prices and E.C. Import Levies:

Asking prices in U.S. dollars for imported grain and soybeans, c.i.f., Rotterdam, the Netherlands, compared with a week earlier and a year ago:

Item	April 20, 1982	Change from previous week	A year ago
	\$ per m. ton	\$ per bu.	¢ per bu.
Wheat			
Canadian No. 1 CWRS-12.5%.....	203.00	5.52	+5
U.S. No. 2 DNS/NS: 14%.....	188.00	5.12	+4
U.S. No. 2 DHW/HW: 13.5%.....	202.00	5.50	+8
U.S. No. 2 S.R.W.....	174.00	4.74	0
U.S. No. 3 H.A.D.....	182.00	4.95	+5
Canadian No. 1 A: Durum.....	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Feed grains:			
U.S. No. 3 Yellow Corn.....	135.50	3.44	+4
U.S. No. 2 Sorghum <u>2/</u>	144.00	3.66	+3
Feed Barley <u>3/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>	<u>1/</u>
Soybeans:			
U.S. No. 2 Yellow.....	262.00	7.13	-13
Argentine 4/.....	259.00	7.05	-12
U.S. 44% Soybean Meal (M.T.)..	227.50	--	-2.50 <u>5/</u>
EC Import Levies			
Wheat <u>6/</u>	77.25	2.10	-13
Barley.....	74.55	1.62	-1
Corn.....	86.95	2.21	-2
Sorghum.....	79.80	2.03	-13

1/ Not available.

2/ Optional delivery: Argentine Granifero Sorghum.

3/ Optional delivery: Canadian Feed Barley.

4/ Optional delivery: Brazil Yellow.

5/ Dollars per metric ton.

6/ Durum has a special levy.

Note: Basis May delivery.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250**

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300**

If you no longer need this publication, check here _____ and return this sheet and/or envelope in which it was mailed and your name will be dropped from mailing list.

If your address should be changed _____ **PRINT OR TYPE** the new address, including **ZIP CODE** and return the whole sheet and/or envelope to:

**FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE, Room 5918 So.
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250**

**POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**



**AGR 101
FIRST CLASS**